

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original): A collecting bag for human body wastes, comprising: a bag member including at least two outer film blanks with joined edges defining the outer contours of the bag member, an inlet opening provided in one of said film blanks,

a discharge portion at a distance from the inlet opening, in a lower portion of the bag member, including a closure device for bringing the bag from a discharge position, in which the bag is open, to a position of use, in which the bag is closed, the discharge portion defining a longitudinal direction, and

accommodating means within the outer contours of the bag member for accommodating at least a part of the discharge portion in the position of use of the bag,

characterized in that

said bag member includes at least a first and a second substantially tubular inner film element, each substantially tubular inner film element being attached to the inner side of each outer film blank by means of at least one joint, said first and second substantially tubular inner film element being situated at a respective side of a dividing line substantially parallel with the longitudinal direction defined by the discharge portion and having, when the bag is substantially empty, a distal and a proximal fold with respect to said dividing line, that

the joint between the first substantially tubular inner film element and one outer film blank and between the second substantially tubular inner film element and said one outer film blank includes at least one proximal joint section at or near the proximal fold and at least one distal joint section at or near the distal fold, the distance (A) between at least a lower part of the proximal joint section and the proximal fold being smaller than the distance (C) between at least a lower part of the distal joint section and the distal fold, and that

said accommodating means includes an element providing at least one opening for receiving at least a part of the discharge portion in the position of use of the bag, said opening extending substantially transversely between the proximal joint sections of the first and the second substantially tubular inner film element, respectively.

Claim 2 (original): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least the proximal section of the joint between the first and second substantially tubular inner film element, respectively, and said one outer film blank extends obliquely with respect to said dividing line such that said joint sections converge in the direction of the discharge portion.

Claim 3 (original): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 2, wherein the distance (C) between the distal joint section and the distal fold is larger than the distance (A) between the lower part of the proximal joint section and the proximal fold and smaller than the distance (B) between the upper part of the proximal joint section and the proximal fold.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 2 ~~any one of claims 2 and 3~~, wherein the angle of inclination between each oblique joint section and the dividing line lies in the range from 5° to 60°.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 2 ~~any one of the claims 2 to 4~~, wherein the distance between the lower ends of the oblique joint sections substantially corresponds to the cross-sectional dimensions of the corresponding part of the discharge portion.

Claim 6 (original): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the proximal joint section is substantially parallel with the proximal fold, such that the distance (A,B) between the proximal joint section and the proximal fold is substantially uniform, and wherein said distance (A,B) is smaller than the distance (C) between the distal joint section and the distal fold.

Claim 7 (original): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 6, wherein the distance between the proximal joint sections substantially corresponds to the cross-sectional dimensions of the corresponding part of the discharge portion.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein said element is a comfort layer overlying said one outer film blank, and wherein said at least one opening is provided by a slit in said layer.

Claim 9 (original): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 8, wherein a reinforcing layer is inserted between said one outer film blank and said comfort layer, at least in the area of said slit.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein said joint sections at the ends of the sections are reinforced by means of spots containing reinforcing material, spot welding, a continuing portion etc.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein further substantially tubular inner film elements are provided in the bag member.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein each substantially tubular inner film element is provided in the area of the bag member situated near the discharge portion.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A collecting bag as claimed in claim
1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~, wherein said bag member is
substantially symmetrical with respect to said dividing line.